

Message Text

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P R 111400Z OCT 74

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AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS KINSHASA 8620

FOR IBS NEWS COORDINATOR AND AFRICAN DIVISION

PASS IPS AFRICAN BRANCH

PASS STATE AF/C

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: KEOGH VISIT

KINSHASA, OCT. 11--USIA DIRECTOR JAMES KEOGH DEPARTED HERE TODAY AFTER A TWO-DAY VISIT DURING WHICH HE MET WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU SESE SEKO AND OTHER ZAIRIANS ACTIVE IN INFORMATION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE.

MR. KEOGH'S VISIT RECEIVED PROMINENT ATTENTION IN THE KINSHASA DAILY, SALONGO, WHICH HEADLINED HIS STATEMENT THAT THE "ZAIRIAN CHIEF OF STATE SPEAKS NOT ONLY FOR HIS COUNTRY BUT FOR ALL OF AFRICA".

THE USIA DIRECTOR, WHO IS ON A 10-NATION AFRICAN TOUR TO OBSERVE AMERICAN INFORMATION AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS, ALSO VISITED WITH ZAIRE'S ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER INOGA LOKONGA L'OME. DURING HIS STAY, MR. KEOGH PARTICIPATED IN THE OPENING OF THE "PHOTOGRAPHY AS A FINE ART" EXHIBITION MOUNTED BY USIS-KINSHASA AT THE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS. HE ALSO AWARDED PRIZES TO ZAIRIAN PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO COMPETED IN A PHOTO CONTEST ORGANIZED BY USIS

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WITH THE EXHIBITION. EARLIER, HE MET WITH ZAIRIAN AND AMERICAN

STAFFERS AND EXPRESSED HIS PLEASURE AT VISITING AFRICA FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE BEING NAMED DIRECTOR IN JANUARY 1973. AT A LUNCHEON THURSDAY HOESTED BY U.S. AMBASSADOR DEANE HINTON, MR. KEOGH HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS A BROAD RANGE MUTUAL INTERESTS WITH A GROUP OF ZAIRIANS CLOSELY INVOLVED WITH INFORMATION AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES.

PRIOR TO ARRIVING HERE WEDNESDAY NIGHT, THE USIA DIRECTOR HAD VISITED SENEGAL, IVORY COAST, GHANA, TOGO, DAHOMEY AND NIGERIA. STILL TO BE VISITED ARE ZAMBIA, TANZANIA AND KENYA WHERE HE WILL ALSO ATTEND AN AFRICAN REGIONAL MEETING OF USIS COUNTRY DIRECTORS. MR. KEOGH WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE AND JAMES MC. GINLEY, USIA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA. ITEM.
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